arrested development

"Pilot"

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

1 EXT. NEWPORT HARBOR - FAMILY BOAT PARTY - AFTERNOON 1

We see a boat on the bay. A chyron reads "Orange County, California." Cut to close up of Michael Bluth, staring out over the bow of the ship.

RON (V.O.)
This is Michael Bluth. He's a good man.

Chyron reads "Michael Bluth, Manager of Sales for the Bluth Company."

RON (V.O.) (CONT'D)
For ten years he's worked for his father's company waiting to be made partner. And right now he's happy.

Cut to Lucille Bluth.

RON (V.O.) (CONT'D)
This is Michael's mother. She isn't happy.

LUCILLE
Look what they've done, Michael!

Freeze on Lucille. Chyron: "Mrs. Lucille Bluth. Socialite."

RON (V.O.)
Currently she's upset that her husband's retirement party is being upstaged by a group of gay protesters.

LUCILLE
Look what the homosexuals have done to me!

MICHAEL
You can't just comb that out and reset it?

Angle on: distant protest boat. A flag reads "Down with the Yacht Club." Another reads "Allow same sex marriage at sea!"

LUCILLE
Everything they do is so *dramatic* and *flamboyant*. It just makes me want to...set myself on fire!

(CONTINUED)

Michael's sister, Lindsay, has approached.

LINDSAY
Shame on you, Mom. Not all homosexuals are flamboy-- (THEN, RE: PROTESTER) Oh, my God, I have the exact same blouse.

Freeze on Lindsay. Chyron: "Lindsay Bluth Fünke. Activist."

RON (V.O.)
This is Michael's twin sister, Lindsay. The self-proclaimed liberal member of the family. As a youthful act of defiance Lindsay married this man--

2 HEADSHOT 2

Of Tobias from newspaper. Chyron reads: "Dr. Tobias Fünke. Not on boat."

RON (V.O.)
They moved to Boston where they've become celebrated for their wine and cheese fundraisers.

3 INT. LINDSAY'S BOSTON RESIDENCE - NIGHT 3

An elegant party at Lindsay's. A banner says "Stop the Hunger." A waiter offers her an hors d'oeuvre.

LINDSAY
(Ô

4 EXT. FAMILY BOAT PARTY - DAY 4

Back on the boat, Michael approaches his brother Gob, as Gob prepares an elaborate magic trick called "The Aztec Tomb." He's surrounded by children.

MICHAEL
So, this is the magic trick, huh?

GOB
"Illusion," Michael. A "trick" is something a whore does for money.

Gob sees the children.

GOB (CONT'D)
(CHEERFULLY) ...or candy!

(CONTINUED)

Freeze on Gob: "George Oscar Bluth II. 'Gob.' Magician."

RON (V.O.)
This is Michael's oldest brother, he goes by his initials; G-O-B, or Gob.

5 PHOTO 5

Of a very stern looking Gob.

RON (V.O.)
Gob recently started the "Alliance of Magicians." An organization that blackballs any performer who reveals a magician's secret.

We've pulled back to reveal that the stern looking Gob is surrounded by several other stern looking magicians and one stern looking clown. Gob is holding a sign that reads "We demand to be taken seriously."

RON (V.O.) (CONT'D)
And finally, there's Buster, the youngest of Michael's siblings.

6 EXT. FAMILY BOAT PARTY - DAY 6

Back on the boat as Buster greets Michael with a back rub.

BUSTER
Hey, brother.

MICHAEL
Buster. How are-- You can stop doing that. How are the Indian Studies?

Freeze frame on Buster. Chyron reads: "Byron 'Buster' Bluth. Graduate student."

RON (V.O.)
Thanks to the family's largesse Buster has studied everything from Native American tribal ceremonies...

7 EXT. DRUMMING CIRCLE - NIGHT 7

Buster in a drumming circle having trouble mastering the familiar "BUM bum-bum-bum BUM bum-bum-bum" rhythm.

RON
...to cartography: the mapping of uncharted territories.

8 EXT. FAMILY BOAT PARTY - DAY 8

BUSTER
...Actually I'm studying cartography now; the mapping of uncharted territories.

MICHAEL
But hasn't everything already sort of been... discovered? By Magellan and Cortez and those people?

BUSTER
No, those guys did a pretty good job, but... You know...

LUCILLE
You still have to double check.

Buster pulls at his collar, starting to panic.

RON (V.O.)
He also suffers from crippling panic attacks.

9 EXT. FAMILY BOAT PARTY - DAY 9

Later. Michael is surrounded by his family for a group photo.

RON (V.O.)
Yes, this is his family. So, why is Michael so happy?

A flashbulb pops and we see the frozen tableau of the Bluths.

RON (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Because he's decided to never speak to these people again.

10 INT. UNFINISHED ATTIC - DAY 10

Close on Michael on an inflatable bed. He's been awake and thinking for some time. Chyron: "Earlier that morning."

MICHAEL
What comes before anything?

Cut to Michael's son, George-Michael (13) sleeping on another inflatable bed. He opens his eyes.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
What have we always said is the most important thing?

We reveal that the beds are head to head on the floor of an attic. Wood beams and exposed insulation surround them.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
(FINALLY) Breakfast.

MICHAEL
Family.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
Family, right. I thought you meant "of the things you eat."

Freeze frame. Chyron reads; "George-Michael Bluth - frozen banana salesman/child."

RON (V.O.)
This is Michael's son, George-Michael.

MICHAEL
Well, we've made nothing but sacrifices for this family, and tonight it all pays off! Tonight your granddad makes me a partner.

RON (V.O.)
One of those sacrifices was Michael's decision to live here--

11 EXT. SUDDEN VALLEY - DAY 11

We see a sign that reads "Sudden Valley, A Bluth Co. Development."

RON (V.O.)
--in the latest of his father's housing tracts.

We pull back to see that only one house has been built. A sign invites: "Have a look around!"

RON (V.O.) (CONT'D)
It should be noted that currently construction has only been completed on the model unit.

12 INT. MODEL HOME - ATTIC/STAIRWAY 12

Cut to the inside of the house as the guys begin their day. They straighten up the attic and enter into the beautifully appointed model home over the following.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
You think he's going to announce it on the boat?

MICHAEL
Absolutely. It's his retirement party. Plus, he's been dropping a lot of hints.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
What kind of hints?

MICHAEL
Well, he's been calling me "pod'ner."

GEORGE-MICHAEL
That's *like* partner.

MICHAEL
And I don't think it's just because he's going through his "cowboy" phase.

13 INT. MODEL HOME - KITCHEN / DINING ROOM - DAY 13

The guys make breakfast, and move into the dining room over the following.

MICHAEL
And then we'll be... free, you know? I'll be my own boss. I'll be able to get you what you deserve; a real home...

GEORGE-MICHAEL
This <u>is</u> a real home.

Michael smiles, touched, then:

MICHAEL
No, it's not. It's a fake home.

Michael removes two small boxes of cereal from within the large plastic turkey on the dining room table and tosses one to his son.

14 INT. FOYER - CONTINUOUS. 14

The guys stretch out and get their bikes (leaning against the wall) over the following. Perhaps they remove bike helmets from within a large fake palm tree.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
But it's a hell of a lot better than living like my Aunt and Uncles whose eyes have never stung from the sweet sweat of a hard day's work.

MICHAEL
Whoa, whoa... Where'd you get that?

GEORGE-MICHAEL
From you. You say it every couple of years when they come out to visit.

MICHAEL
Well, maybe you're right--maybe they have been spoiled. But you'll find you have more dignity when you learn the simple rule that--

A couple enters through the front door.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
--These closets are enormous!

GEORGE-MICHAEL
Can we buy it, Dad? Can we buy the house?

MICHAEL
Well, we better hurry, these things are going to get snapped right up.

RON (V.O.)
The guys then headed down to Balboa Island.

14A EXT. ESTABLISHING SHOTS OF BALBOA ISLAND. 14A

We see footage (old or new) of Balboa Island and the fun zone, perhaps mixed in with old postcards, etc.

RON (V.O.)
It was here in 1953 that George Sr. started a business selling a novelty food item called "the frozen banana."

15 INT. INDUSTRIAL KITCHEN 15

Archival footage of a banana being dipped in chocolate, rolled in nuts and locked into a deep freeze.

RON (V.O.)
Business boomed and George Sr. parlayed his success into a huge real estate empire.

15A PHOTO 15A

A photo of George and Lucille surveying a model of the Orange County hillsides covered with homes.

RON (V.O.)
Like his father before him, Michael had gotten his son a job there to bolster the boy's self-esteem.

16 EXT. BANANA BLUTH STAND - DAY 16

Cut to George-Michael standing in a ridiculous banana-shaped kiosk. He notices something in the distance.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
Uncle Gob?

Angle on: Gob approaching on a 'Segway Human Transporter.' He rocks back and forth by the stand.

GOB
Give me a dollar. No-- the twenty. This is going to blow your mind.

Gob grabs a twenty and covers it with his coat.

GOB (CONT'D)
Some say wealth is an illusion. Let's just watch and see. For one moment it's here--and in the next--

Gob removes the coat revealing the game Monopoly.

GOB (CONT'D)
--Monopoly! You don't have it do you?

GEORGE-MICHAEL
I think I might.

GOB
That's good cause a lot of the pieces are missing. Aw, to play the game Monopoly with my family again. I'd give anything to be eight.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
I'm thirteen.

(CONTINUED)

GOB
Naw, I wasn't so crazy about thirteen. The acne, the erections. The self-consciousness.

George-Michael looks away, self-conscious.

GOB (CONT'D)
You okay?

GEORGE-MICHAEL
Yup.

Gob notices Michael talking to the ship's captain. He starts over to him.

GOB
Hey, there's your dad.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
Um, Uncle Gob. Where's the twenty?

GOB
Hey. A magician never reveals his secret. That's what I started the whole Alliance for.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
That's fine, I just need to know--

GOB
What you need to know... is that it's *magic*!

Gob rides off on his Segway.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
Wow. It's so much like stealing.

17 EXT. PIER - CONTINUOUS 17

Angle on Michael who is finishing up with the ship's captain.

MICHAEL
...and my dad might want to make an announcement, sort of a passing of the torch situation, so if you've got a cordless mic, or... even a torch now that I think about it.

Gob has approached on his Segway.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
Gob. Long time.

Gob nods towards the captain.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
Oh, um... Captain, this is my brother Gob.

CAPTAIN
How are you?

GOB
Incredible. I'm having an incredible year.

Gob high fives the reluctant captain, who exits.

MICHAEL
So you brought the check for your share of the party?

GOB
You know, I sort of thought my contribution could be a magic show!

MICHAEL
(EXCITED) A magic show! That's perfect! Oh, wait, I just remembered, Dad's retiring not turning six.

GOB
Hey, I just bought a new illusion called *The Aztec Tomb*. It cost like eighteen grand. Can't you just charge the party to the company?

MICHAEL
It's not a business expense.

GOB
So what? Lindsay's been staying at the Four Seas for a month I'm sure she's charging the company.

MICHAEL
Lindsay's been in town for a month?!

GOB
I don't think so.

SMASH CUT TO:

18 INT. GEORGE AND LUCILLE'S BALBOA ISLAND YACHT CLUB PENTHOUSE - DAY 18

Michael is there with Lucille, who examines a fox fur.

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL
Give me your company checkbook. You're cut off.

LUCILLE
Well, someone cut the foot off my fox. (MODELS IT) Is it obvious?

MICHAEL
Well, you've got to remember you're going to be splattered in red paint, so that'll "distract the eye." Getting back to the reason I kicked your door in earlier; I don't want you charging any more of your personal expenses to the company.

LUCILLE
Well, I had to pay for the Aztec Tomb. Gob says it's a career maker.

MICHAEL
The company paid for the Aztec Tomb? I was talking about Lindsay. You're putting up Lindsay at the Four Seas Hotel and on top of it you don't even tell me she's in town.

LUCILLE
(SNAPPING) If you're saying I play favorites, you're wrong. I love all my children equally!

19 INT. GEORGE AND LUCILLE'S BALBOA ISLAND YACHT CLUB PENTHOUSE - DAY 19

Flashback to Lucille and Buster playing the game Uno at the table in her apartment. Chyron reads: "Earlier that year."

LUCILLE
I don't care for Gob.

Back to present.

20 INT. GEORGE AND LUCILLE'S BALBOA ISLAND YACHT CLUB PENTHOUSE - DAY 20

Michael and Lucille are as before.

MICHAEL
Mom, this is unacceptable.

LUCILLE
Oh, I dipped into the kitty a couple of times. You should be focused on tonight. Dad's making a big announcement.

MICHAEL
I knew it. It's about me, right?

Lucille attempts a tight-lipped coy smile, but it's a little eerie, twisted, maybe even a little flirty.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
I wonder how I can talk you out of ever making that face again.

Tobias Fünke enters.

TOBIAS
Michael! How are you?

MICHAEL
I'm good, Tobias. How's the job search coming along?

TOBIAS
Well, I'm hoping the universe will provide a path for me.

21 INSERT - A NEWSPAPER PHOTO 21

Of Tobias (from scene 2)

RON (V.O.)
Tobias recently lost his medical license for administering CPR to a person who, as it turned out, was not having a heart attack.

Widen to reveal the picture next to it. Paramedics surrounding a man lying on a beach. Headline reads: "Sleeping tourist has sternum broken." Back to present.

22 INT. GEORGE AND LUCILLE'S BALBOA ISLAND YACHT CLUB PENTHOUSE - DAY 22

MICHAEL
Well, who knows, maybe you'll be inspired by the boat party and start a career as a pirate.

TOBIAS
I haven't packed for that.

Lindsay enters.

LINDSAY
Michael.

MICHAEL
Lindsay. How was your flight?

LINDSAY
Great. We just got in--

LUCILLE
He knows.

LINDSAY
--a month ago. I'm sorry. I've been meaning to call you. I really have. I just... I needed to decompress a little. I've been so busy. We just had an amazing fundraiser for HOOP.

MICHAEL
Hoop?

LINDSAY
My anti-circumcision movement.

23 INT. LINDSAY'S BOSTON RESIDENCE - NIGHT 23

Quick shot of an elegant party at Lindsay's. A banner reads: "Hands Off Our Penises." Back to present.

24 INT. GEORGE AND LUCILLE'S BALBOA ISLAND YACHT CLUB PENTHOUSE - DAY 24

LINDSAY
Believe it or not, we brought in over forty thousand dollars.

MICHAEL
Wow, it sounds like you've saved enough skin to make ten new boys.

TOBIAS
Of course, most of that money came from the Bluth Company, I mean, what a generous--

Lindsay and Lucille frantically shake their heads.

TOBIAS (CONT'D)
How <u>are</u> you?

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL
Okay, you know what? You've all been helping yourself to the company coffers for years, but starting tomorrow there's going to be a new boss in town...

We hear a low ominous drum beating. It grows louder over the following.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
...And all of you are just going to have to learn to fend for yourselves. All of you are going to finally feel the sweet sting of sweat in your eyes as-- (TO BUSTER) --you can't do that on the balcony?

Reveal that Buster is sitting at his Indian Drum reading sheet music five feet behind Michael.

BUSTER
Mom says it's too windy.

Lucille returns to examining her fox.

LUCILLE
(TO HERSELF) Who could have done this?

25 EXT. BANANA BLUTH STAND - CONTINUOUS 25

We see Maeby stick her grandmother's fox foot onto a stick. Pull back as she approaches George-Michael behind the counter.

RON (V.O.)
At that moment Michael's son had a visit from a cousin whom he hadn't seen in years.

MAEBY
Um, yeah, I bought a frozen banana and when I bit into it, I found this.

She holds up the missing foot from Lucille's fox stole.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
It looks like a foot.

MAEBY
It tasted like a foot. Which I didn't really mind, but I'm pretty sure I said "no nuts."

(CONTINUED)

GEORGE-MICHAEL
You're my cousin, aren't you?

MAEBY
Maeby.

Freeze on Maeby: Chyron reads; "Mae 'Maeby' Fünke."

RON (V.O.)
This is Lindsay and Tobias' daughter Maeby.

25A INT. LINDSAY'S BOSTON RESIDENCE 25A

Cut to months earlier. Lindsay is flipping through a "Rolling Stone"-like magazine.

RON (V.O.)
Perhaps because of her mother's permissiveness, Maeby has always found unique ways to rebel.

LINDSAY
Honey, this is a cute tattoo for you.

Maeby enters in a ball gown wearing glamorous make-up.

MAEBY
I want to enter beauty pageants.

Lindsay gasps. Back to present.

25B EXT. BANANA BLUTH STAND - CONTINUOUS WITH 25 25B

MAEBY
You really didn't recognize me?

GEORGE-MICHAEL
Well, we never see you. We never see anybody in our family.

MAEBY
I know. It's our parents' fault. We should teach them a lesson.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
Yeah, ha! No, I don't think so.

MAEBY
You know what we should do? I should go to my Mom tonight and be like "I met the cutest guy." And then she'll see you and I totally making out.

(CONTINUED)

GEORGE-MICHAEL
Yeah, ha! But, not really, right?

MAEBY
It's perfect. She'd freak out and I'd be like "Mom, if we saw each other more this wouldn't happen."

GEORGE-MICHAEL
But... We're cousins.

MAEBY
That's what makes it funny.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
But isn't it against the law?

MAEBY
I don't think so.

(CONTINUED)

GEORGE-MICHAEL
I know for certain that the yacht club would have a problem with it.

Maeby paws at George-Michael with the fox foot enticingly.

26 INT. FOUR SEAS HOTEL - LINDSAY'S ROOM - DAY 26

Tobias emerges from the bathroom in a robe and begins looking through luggage.

RON (V.O.)
Tobias, now believing the boat party to be pirate-themed, began searching through his wife's luggage for an outfit.

27 EXT. FOUR SEAS HOTEL - DAY 27

Tobias emerges in a brightly colored Versace blouse, tights, a scarf, etc. He's waved over to a flamboyantly dressed group of men boarding a van.

RON (V.O.)
Then, mistaking a group of garishly dressed men for pirates, Tobias boarded a van full of homosexuals.

28 EXT. PROTEST BOAT - LATER THAT AFTERNOON 28

Tobias is speaking to large man in a powdered wig.

RON (V.O.)
Soon, he was unwittingly part of a protest against the local yacht club.

TOBIAS
How <u>are</u> you?

RON (V.O.)
Meanwhile the Bluth boat party had begun.

29 EXT. BLUTH FAMILY BOAT PARTY - SIMULTANEOUS (FROM SCENE 1) 29

Lindsay is with Lucille in a moment from the start of the show. Lindsay looks at a distant boat.

LINDSAY
Oh, my God, I have the exact same blouse.

LUCILLE
I like it better on him.

29A INT. MIDDLE DECK - FAMILY BOAT PARTY - SAME 29A*

Angle on George-Michael with Maeby. *

MAEBY *
I don't understand why you work every *
weekend. Aren't you, like, my age?

GEORGE MICHAEL *
Well, it's important to be *
responsible. I think there aren't
enough young people today who have a
real work ethic.

MAEBY *
(CONSIDERS, THEN) What do you mean? *

GEORGE MICHAEL *
(REALIZING) I don't know. *

30 INT. MIDDLE DECK - FAMILY BOAT PARTY - DAY 30

RON (V.O.)
And George Sr. finally made his retirement speech.

GEORGE SR.
Let's see some smiles people -- this is a party, not a shareholders meeting. So, I guess it's time for me to be moseying on -- but even though I won't be saddling up and coming in every day, there's someone else who's going to.

Michael hands George Sr. a cordless mic.

GEORGE SR. (CONT'D)
I give you the new Acting CEO of the Bluth Company. My favorite Bluth.

Michael feigns modesty.

GEORGE SR. (CONT'D)
The smartest Bluth... And the sexiest creature I've ever laid eyes on.

Michael's flattered, but a little concerned.

GEORGE SR. (CONT'D)
My lovely wife, Lucille.

Music plays and people applaud as Lucille basks. George Sr. presents his wife with a large prop torch as Buster hands her flowers. She's Miss America. Michael looks to his father. "How could you do this?" Lindsay approaches.

GEORGE SR. (CONT'D)
I'm sorry. It's not the right time.

LINDSAY
Well, I'm not going to lie to you; this is great news for HOOP.

Michael crosses off and Lindsay realizes she may have gone too far, but can't bring herself to follow.

31 EXT. FAMILY BOAT PARTY - DAY 31

Angle on Michael at the edge of the ship staring off. He starts to smile (this is the moment from the top of the show.) George-Michael approaches him.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
Dad... Are you okay?

MICHAEL
You know what? I'm great. We've waited long enough. We're moving on, you and I. Say your good-byes, son. This is the beginning of a new life for us.

GEORGE SR. (O.S.)
Okay, I want a picture of the new CEO with all my kids...

Michael crosses off as Maeby approaches George-Michael.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
I guess we're going to see you guys even less now.

MAEBY
I told you we should have taught them a lesson.

Maeby looks up to see Lindsay approaching. She grabs George-Michael and kisses him. Lindsay doesn't notice and joins the family photo from the start of the show. We hear the rising noise of speedboats in the background.

GOB
Are those... police boats?

GEORGE SR.
No... that's the Securities and Exchange Commission.

LUCILLE
Oh my God!

LINDSAY
The SEC...

BUSTER
They have boats?

There are flashing lights and sirens now.

POLICE (V.O.)
Prepare to be boarded.

Angle on: George-Michael and Maeby. They break the embrace.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
I <u>knew</u> it was against the law!

<u>END OF ACT ONE</u>

ACT TWO

32 EXT. FAMILY BOAT PARTY - DECK - CONTINUOUS 32

We're on the boat as before. George Sr. yells into a phone.

GEORGE SR.
Well, empty those accounts!

33 EXT. FAMILY BOAT PARTY - WHEEL HOUSE - DAY 33

Cut to: Lucille, and Lindsay racing to the wheel house. They push the captain out of the way as Buster enters.

LUCILLE
Lindsay, take the wheel. Buster, find us a channel to the ocean.

LINDSAY
Where am I going Buster?

BUSTER
Oh. Gee. See, I don't really have any of my mapping equipment with me.

LINDSAY
You've had eighty thousand dollars worth of cartography lessons. Get us into international waters!

BUSTER
Okay, let's see... Um... (HE LOOKS AT THE MAP) Okay if this blue area here is the land... that would make us... Oh, boy.

Buster begins going into a panic attack.

34 EXT. FAMILY BOAT PARTY - DECK - CONTINUOUS 34

Cut to: George Sr. yelling into the phone. Gob manhandles him toward the Aztec Tomb.

GOB
Get in the tomb! The Aztec tomb!

GEORGE SR.
What are you-- I don't have time for your tricks.

GOB
Illusions, Dad! You don't have time for my illusions! Just get in the box, I'll make you disappear!

Angle on: Michael and George Michael as the sirens grow louder:

35 INT. LOCAL NEWS ANCHOR DESK - NIGHT 35

We see a series of upcut news stories.

RON (V.O.)
The Bluth family dominated the news that night.

John Beard sits behind an anchor desk in front of a graphic that reads: "Arrested Developer!"

JOHN BEARD
Southern California is the home of the high-speed freeway pursuit, but tonight's flee from justice was on the sea and slow as molasses. In the latest string of high profile CEO arrests, Bluth Development Company President George...

Footage of George Sr. being taken away on the police boat. Perhaps his hat blows off into the sea.

JOHN BEARD (CONT'D)
...Bluth was arrested tonight for defrauding investors and using the company as his personal piggy bank. By hiding debt and misrepresenting earnings, Bluth allegedly falsified his company's bottom line while reaping the rewards of its profits.

Jump cut to another story.

JOHN BEARD (CONT'D)
More intrigue on the high seas tonight as dozens of local pirates were arrested for protesting the Yacht Club's discriminatory policies. Shouting epithets from a makeshift pontoon boat, the protestors, made up of a local theater group, disrupted an otherwise peaceful night on the harbor.

Footage of Tobias and the protesters. They shout "We're here, we're queer, we want to get married on the ocean!" Tobias does a double take for the record books.

36 INT. POLICE DEPARTMENT - THAT NIGHT 36

The Bluth's, absent George Sr. and Michael, are watching a TV in the corner.

TRISHA (ON T.V.)
Mr. Bluth's son Gob (HARD "G") hid his father here. By pushing with his heels, Mr. Bluth was able to slide from behind this panel and...

GOB
I have to think the alliance is going to frown on this.

(CONTINUED)

TRISHA (ON T.V.)
...Perhaps a good trick for a human, but the dogs found him almost instantly.

Tobias enters from the holding area.

TOBIAS
I'm all right.

LINDSAY
(COULDN'T CARE LESS) Thank God.

Tobias hugs Lindsay and George-Michael, and attempts to bring Maeby into the hug. She's out of his reach so he brings Gob into the embrace. Buster gives him a back rub.

TOBIAS
What an adven-- (TO BUSTER) You don't have to do that. (THEN) What an adventure! I thought the homosexuals were pirates. Turns out a lot of them were actors from a local theater. But it was amazing. I mean, here I've been waiting for the universe to provide me with a path, and I think it did. I want to be an *actor!*

LINDSAY
And so another wonderful journey begins.

Michael enters, they all rush to him.

MICHAEL
So they're keeping Dad in jail. At least until this all gets sorted out. (BEAT) Also the attorney said they're putting a halt to the company's expense account.

This gets gasps.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
Funny, I kind of expected that after "they're keeping Dad in jail." So the first thing I need to do is to have you cut up your company credit cards.

BUSTER
But the miles...

LINDSAY
You know, Michael, Dad did name Mom as his successor.

LUCILLE
And I'm putting Buster in charge.

MICHAEL
Buster? The guy who didn't know the blue of a map is water?

LUCILLE
He's had business classes.

BUSTER
Well, 18th century agrarian business, but it's all the same principles. Let me ask you, are you at all concerned about an uprising?

MICHAEL
All right, you know what? I'm done. I'm tired of the greed and the selfishness and taking. I've got a son to think about. So, you're on your own. And Lindsay, I just want to say that I expect it from them, they're completely oblivious. But you -- you should know better.

Michael exits with George-Michael in tow.

BUSTER/TOBIAS/GOB
Ew. / Sorry about that. / Low blow.

They continue to console Lindsay, oblivious.

RON (V.O.)
In the days that followed the Bluth's assets were officially frozen.

37 INT. INDUSTRIAL KITCHEN 37

Archival footage of bananas shut into a deep freeze.

RON (V.O.)
Michael was able to secure a job with a rival housing company almost immediately.

37A INT. BOARDROOM AT SITWELL HOUSING - DAY 37A

Michael is at a job interview with two men, Enrique and Scott.

ENRIQUE
...plus there are perks. We'll set you up in Arizona in one of our finest estates.

MICHAEL
(DRIVING A HARD BARGAIN) Attic or main house?

Enrique and Scott laugh, then notice Michael's demeanor.

ENRIQUE
Wait... are you kidding?

MICHAEL
(A MOMENT, THEN) Yes.

38 INT. HOTEL STAIRWAY 38

RON (V.O.)
Lindsay had no choice but to check her family out of the hotel earlier than planned.

We follow Lindsay, Tobias and Maeby as they race through the back stairways of the hotel. Tobias and Maeby wear as many layers of clothes as possible and Lindsay is covered with shoes. They hit the emergency exit of a back stairwell and run like fugitives as she barks; "go, run, dig, move" etc.

RON (V.O.) (CONT'D)
And her husband started looking for work.

39 INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY 39

Tobias addresses an O.S. audience in a large auditorium.

TOBIAS
My name is Dr. Tobias Fünke. I was chief resident of psychiatry at Mass General for two years, I did my fellowship in the MIT department of psycholinguistics, and this is "I'm A Bad Bad Man" from "Annie Get Your Gun."

We reveal a piano player who begins a bouncy number, and watch as Tobias gets into the beat, bending at the knees but mercifully cut to:

RON (V.O.)
Lucille was finding it difficult to go about her daily life.

40 OMITTED 40

41 EXT. BALBOA ISLAND YACHT CLUB - DAY 41

A team of reporters accosts Lucille as she enters.

LUCILLE
The SEC is making him out to be some kind of mastermind... Which believe me, he's not. The man could barely work our shredder.

A hubbub ensues.

42 INT. GEORGE SR.'S OFFICE - DAY 42

RON (V.O.)
And Buster was discovering his academic pursuits didn't fully prepare him for his new responsibilities.

Buster is at his father's enormous desk breathing hard.

EXECUTIVE
Quick question; have you looked at the latest figures on the Sudden Valley expansion, vis a vis the costs of discontinuing development, versus the tax hit for non-recoupable...

But Buster has slipped under his desk in hypoxic shock.

43 INT. GEORGE SR.'S OFFICE - LATER 43

Buster is on the floor with a paramedic now surrounded by Lindsay, Tobias, Gob, and Lucille. They look at each other, realizing they're truly screwed. Finally.

LUCILLE
We need Michael.

BUSTER
(BEHIND THE OXYGEN MASK) He might be helpful.

LINDSAY
So what do we do?

TOBIAS
(LOOKING UP FROM A BACKSTAGE MAGAZINE)
Maybe...an intervention.

44 INT. PENTHOUSE - A LITTLE LATER 44

Michael, Lindsay, Tobias, Buster, Gob and Lucille sit across from each other.

GOB
(GENIAL) Okay, so what we'd like to do is go around the room and everyone just talk a little about Michael; what we don't like about him, or how he annoys us, or maybe just something he does that rubs us the wrong way.

TOBIAS
And don't hold back; there's no right or wrong answer here.

MICHAEL
Okay, wait... I'm sorry--what is this an intervention for?

LUCILLE
We need you to come back and run the business.

MICHAEL
So... technically it's not really an "intervention," is it? It's more like an "imposition," if you think about it.

LINDSAY
Well, whatever you want to call it...

MICHAEL
I want to call it an "imposition."

GOB
We're in trouble. And I can't perform my magic. I'm even getting blackballed from the smaller venues.

44A INT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - DAY 44A

A house is decorated for a child's birthday party. Gob is being addressed by the child's father.

MAN
Well, it's come down to the two of you, and... I'll be honest, I'm more comfortable going with the alliance approved magician.

(CONTINUED)

We reveal that Gob is sitting next to another magician, this one barely fourteen years old.

GOB
Give 'em a hell of a show, champ.

TEEN MAGICIAN
F**k off, traitor.

44B INT. PENTHOUSE - CONTINUOUS WITH 46. 44B

MICHAEL
And I thought Buster had everything under control. (TO BUSTER) I thought you've been going in to the office.

BUSTER
Oh, and I've enjoyed that. But it's just... I'm constantly being called to the phone, or asked a question, or being resuscitated and it's just hard to get a good "work flow" going.

Angle on George-Michael and Maeby watching from the stairs.

MAEBY
I can't believe they're still fighting.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
I know. I'm tempted to kiss again, so we could teach them a lesson.

MAEBY
Well, why would that teach them a--

GEORGE-MICHAEL
No, I mean, to freak them out.

MAEBY
Well, but that doesn't make sen-

GEORGE-MICHAEL
(A LITTLE DESPERATE) Isn't that what makes it funny?

Back to the adults.

MICHAEL
Look, I'm sorry. I really am. But it's too late. I'm moving to Arizona. I got a job.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
(NO REACTION) It's a thing you apply for, they pay you to do it-- no, I don't want to ruin the surprise. So no hard feelings... Adios, sayonara.. I'll see you when the first parent dies.

LUCILLE
Well, I'd rather be dead in California than alive in Arizona.

Everyone but Michael cracks up.

LINDSAY
I think Dad would want you to help out, here.

MICHAEL
Hey, Dad's in prison.

Tobias offers up a small gasp.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
Nice try, Tobias.

LINDSAY
Well, the least you could do is say goodbye to him.

45 INT. PRISON MEETING ROOM - DAY 45

George Sr. in an orange jumpsuit waits by a bench. Michael approaches and they sit down.

RON (V.O.)
In fact, Michael hadn't spoken to his father since the arrest and he decided to give his father the courtesy of a formal resignation.

MICHAEL
I quit.

GEORGE SR.
Probably a good career move.

RON (V.O.)
This was the nicest thing George Sr. had ever said to his son and it brought up some emotional issues.

Jump cut to:

MICHAEL
(WITH INTENSITY) Why didn't you move me up, Dad?! I was so loyal! I worked so hard. Why didn't you put me in charge?

GEORGE SR.
Michael, these guys, the SEC, they've been chasing me for years. If I'd have put you in charge you'd be wearing an orange jumpsuit too.

MICHAEL
But I could have helped, if you'd have told me--

GEORGE SR.
You'd be an accomplice. No, it had to be your mom; they can't arrest a husband and wife for the same crime.

MICHAEL
I don't think that's true, Dad.

GEORGE SR.
Really? I've got the worst attorneys!

MICHAEL
So, what are you saying... you did this for me?

GEORGE SR.
What have we always said comes before anything? Family first. You do right by your son.

MICHAEL
Well, that's why I'm taking my son to Arizona.

GEORGE SR.
Atta' boy, pod'ner.

Michael gets up to go, then:

MICHAEL
You might want to dial down the cowboy act while you're in there.

GEORGE SR.
That crossed my mind.

46 INT. MODEL HOME - A LITTLE LATER - DAY 46

Lindsay enters.

(CONTINUED)

RON (V.O.)
With Michael leaving town Lindsay decided to take inventory of the family's last remaining asset, their model home.

Lindsay checks out the big screen TV only to find out it's just a shell. She takes the little TV from behind it.

47 INT. ATTIC - MOMENTS LATER - DAY 47

George-Michael is packing up his stuff when Lindsay throws the door open. They both jump.

LINDSAY
What are you doing?

GEORGE-MICHAEL
Packing up. What are you doing?

LINDSAY
Saying goodbye to you. Don't forget your TV.

She hands George-Michael the portable TV.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
I'm going to miss you guys.

LINDSAY
Well... we'll come out and see you in... We'll miss you, too.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
It's been nice having you guys around. You know? To talk to. Since Mom died...

He starts a thought, then thinks better of it. Finally.

GEORGE-MICHAEL (CONT'D)
I wish we could all stay here.

Michael has appeared at the door.

MICHAEL
Hey. (RE: BOX) Why don't you take that down to the van.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
Yeah, okay.

George-Michael starts out, then grabs Lindsay and holds her tight for a moment. She's stunned. He exits.

(CONTINUED)

MICHAEL
Why wouldn't he tell me that?

LINDSAY
Probably doesn't want to disappoint you. I guess we all don't want to disappoint you.

MICHAEL
You're awfully good at it.

LINDSAY
No, it's true. Look at my life. We're in debt, Tobias is out of work-- I guess it's why I didn't call you. You're the one we've always looked up to. You're the one who's always taken care of us and -- we're in trouble now. All of us.

MICHAEL
How did we get so screwed up?

LINDSAY
I don't know.

MICHAEL
Mom.

LINDSAY
Probably Mom.

They laugh, then:

LINDSAY (CONT'D)
("I LOVE HER") I hate her.

MICHAEL
Look, I just want my son to be happy. I don't care about the other stuff, and-- I guess what I'm saying is--

A Japanese family, brochures in hand, enter the attic.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
--This could be your sewing room!

LINDSAY
And that master bathroom... I think it's perfect for us.

MICHAEL
Oh, the kids are going to be thrilled.

They head out, nodding hello incoming family.

48 INT. MODEL HOME - A FEW DAYS LATER - DAY 48

All (except Lucille and George Sr.) are playing Monopoly as a family for the first time. They're having fun and laughing.

MICHAEL
...and Dad was always the banker so there was no way we could beat him.

LINDSAY
It's true. And even if we had the property...

BUSTER
...He'd kill us with the escrow costs and closing fees.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
He should have been stocking up on those "get out of jail free" cards.

GOB
Good one, George-Michael.

Gob high fives George-Michael. Tobias does the same.

TOBIAS
How <u>are</u> you?

GEORGE-MICHAEL
This is fun. I wish you guys didn't have to go so soon.

Lindsay and Michael share a look.

MICHAEL
Yeah, well... I've got some good news. These guys are going to be staying with us for a while.

GEORGE-MICHAEL
(EXCITED) Really?

MICHAEL
Yeah, what the hell. Family first. It's time to make this place a real home. (THEN) Of course it's going to be tight so you might have to share a room with your cousin.

On George-Michael's look of panic we;

(CONTINUED)

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

TAG

FADE IN:

49 INT. MODEL HOME 49

RON (V.O.)
On the next "Arrested Development..."

George-Michael in his bedroom listening to Maeby singing in the shower. He burns with lust.

50 INT. CARTIER - DAY 50

RON (V.O.)
Many find work for the first time.

Lindsay at Cartier. Her boss shows her a watch.

SALESWOMAN
...and it's the most expensive watch we have, so only let the customers who are serious try it on.

LINDSAY
It is a fun watch. (THEN) I'll take it.

51 INT. BOARDROOM AT SITWELL HOUSEING - DAY 51

Gob addresses Enrique and Scott, the men from the Sitwell Housing company.

ENRIQUE
It was really your brother we were interested in. I mean, you don't have any references, or--

Gob produces a dove out of a flash of fire.

GOB
Is this enough of a reference for you?

ENRIQUE
(SMOKE CLEARS, THEN) Even a letter of recommendation--something like that...

RON (V.O.)
And Michael finds it difficult to get his father out of jail.

52 INT. PRISON MEETING ROOM - DAY 52

Michael and George Sr. (in orange jumpsuit) at the prison.

MICHAEL
You... love it here?

GEORGE SR.
I'm having the time of my life!

FADE OUT.